

ourselves now is a breakdown of our solidarity, which must be absolute. Racism and hate are characteristics of terrorists, not of individuals who treasure freedom.

I urge my colleagues to join me in encouraging unity with our fellow Arab and Muslim Americans and all Americans, who share our commitment to freedom and democracy. Unity, not hatred, will provide our nation with clarity needed to prevail.

As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "Through our scientific genius, we have made of this world a neighborhood; now, through our moral and spiritual development we must make of it a brotherhood [and sisterhood] . . . we must all live together; we must all be concerned about each other."

I hope all Americans can be concerned about each other at this pivotal time in our history.

HONORING ALLAN Y. JENDIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Allan Y. Jendian for being elected Secretary/Treasurer of Chapter 97 of the National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU). The NTEU represents 6,000 employees of the Fresno Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Campus.

Jendian has been an IRS Revenue Agent for the past 34 years. During the last fiscal year, he was named "Employee of the Year" of the Compliance Division for his community service at Public Service Recognition ceremonies. Jendian also successfully coordinated the Fresno IRS Campus Combined Federal Campaign, which reached a record-breaking high of over \$220,000.

Jendian, who has long been a highly active member of his community, is a Deacon at the Armenian Orthodox Church. He recently served as the Regional Chairman of the Pontifical Visit of the Catholics of All Armenians to the Central Valley. In addition, he serves on numerous Boards, including the Armenia Fund of the Western Region, the Diocesan Council of the Western Diocese and the Armenian Inter-Denominational Community Council. Furthermore, Jendian is an active member of the St. Paul Armenian Church, Armenian General Benevolent Union, Knights of Vartan and the Tekeyan Cultural Association, while serving on various committees within these organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Allan Y. Jendian for being elected Secretary/Treasurer of Chapter 97 of the National Treasury Employees Union. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Jendian many more years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2001

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member was returning to his district for official business

purposes the evening of September 21, 2001, and unfortunately missed several roll call votes on H.R. 2926, the Air Transportation Safety and System Stabilization Act. Had this Member been present, this Member would have voted in the following ways:

1. Rollcall Number 345—"aye" on the Rule (H. Res. 242) to allow same day consideration of legislation to preserve the continued viability of the United States air transportation system;
2. Rollcall Number 346—"aye" on the Rule (H. Res. 244) for H.R. 2926;
3. Rollcall Number 347—"no" on the motion to recommit with instructions; and
4. Rollcall Number 348—"aye" on final passage of H.R. 2926.

HONORING GEN. HENRY H. "HUGH" SHELTON, USA, FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2001

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise to recognize and commend the exceptional work of a distinguished American, a great friend and an exceptional soldier, General Henry H. "Hugh" Shelton, USA, the 14th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. On October 1, 2001, General Shelton, concludes his second term as the principal military adviser to the President, the Secretary of Defense, and to the National Security Council.

General Shelton, known to his friends as "Hugh", was born in Tarboro, North Carolina, and grew up on his family's 1,000 acre farm in the tiny town of Speed, N.C., with its population of 100. He is the oldest of four children whose father was a farmer and sold farm equipment, and his mother was a local school teacher. General Shelton attended the Speed Baptist Church every Sunday where his mother served as its pianist. General Shelton's father achieved his goal of sending his children to college so they could broaden their horizons and not be limited to a life of growing cotton and tobacco.

As a freshman of North Carolina State University Hugh Shelton joined the U.S. Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC), where he was drawn to the discipline, the values, and the esprit d' corps of the U.S. Army and the precision of his unit's drills. After completing this two-year ROTC requirement after college, General Shelton went to work at Regal Textiles, a local business.

Mr. Speaker, it is almost hard to imagine General Shelton not serving our Nation as an Army officer. After a year in the private sector, he returned to the Army with a regular commission, and through rigorous training, determination and discipline became a member of the Army's Special Forces. During his distinguished career General Shelton has served in a variety of command and staff positions in the United States and abroad. He is a combat veteran of Vietnam and the Gulf War. During his two tours in Vietnam, he served with the 5th Special Forces Group, and with the 173rd Airborne Brigade. It was during his service in Vietnam he earned the Purple Heart.

General Shelton also commanded the 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Division at Ft. Lewis, Washington; serving as the assistant chief of staff for operations for the 9th Infantry Division; commanded the 1st Brigade of the 82nd Airborne Division at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina; served in Ft. Drum, NY as the 10th Mountain Division's Chief of Staff; as the assistant division commander of the 101st Airborne; and commanded the Special Operations Command.

A testament to General Shelton's exceptional leadership and of his commitment to our Nation is his meteoric rise through the Army's general officer ranks from brigadier general through general in 9 years! In 1987, as a brigadier general, General Shelton served for 2 years in the Joint Chiefs of Staff's Operations Directorate, followed by another 2-year assignment as the 101st Airborne Division's Assistant Division Commander, which included a 7-month deployment to the Gulf for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Following the Gulf War, General Shelton was promoted to the rank of major general and was assigned to command the 82nd Airborne Division at Ft. Bragg, N.C., and in 1993, was promoted to the rank of lieutenant general and assumed the command of the XVIII Airborne Corps. While serving as Corps Commander, General Shelton commanded the Joint Task Force that conducted Operation Uphold Democracy in Haiti. In February 1996, General Shelton served as the Chief of the Special Operations Command in Tampa, Florida. As the Command's Chief, General Shelton became the overall commander of our Nation's elite fighting forces participation in joint operations.

True to his roots as a "soldier's soldier" and a leader who is "at home" being out in the field, I was not surprised to learn that General Shelton was in Namibia reviewing special operations forces when he was contacted by the Pentagon regarding his interest in being considered for the Chairman's position. Following his nomination by then President Bill Clinton, and confirmation by the Senate, General Shelton worked tirelessly during his tenure as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to improve the quality of life for our men and women serving in our armed forces.

General Shelton sought and received the largest across the board pay increases for the military in nearly two decades; pushed for greater salary increases for our mid-grade noncommissioned officers; and instituted a retirement reform package that reinstated benefits for those who entered our Nation's military service after 1986; implemented an enhanced housing allowance that gradually eliminated out of pocket expenses for service members living off their post or base; and advocated for medical health care reform that made health care more responsive to the needs of our military and their families, and included military retirees over the age of 65.

As part of Chairman Shelton's dynamic leadership, he established a U.S. Joint Forces Command to serve as the nucleus for Joint Experimentation and Joint Force Readiness; established a Joint Task Force-Civil Support to increase the military's ability and readiness to respond to U.S. homeland defense crises, and established a Joint Task Force-Computer Network Operations to develop and enhance